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The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

## **Report 52:**

### **Treaties tabled in March 2003**

**Singapore - Australia Free Trade Agreement  
Amendments to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered  
Species of Wild Fauna and Flora  
Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Sewage from Ships (revised)  
Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships**

### **Joint Standing Committee on Treaties**

June 2003  
Canberra

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## **Membership of the Committee**

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## **Resolution of Appointment**

The Resolution of Appointment of the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties allows it to inquire into and report on:

- a) matters arising from treaties and related National Interest Analyses and proposed treaty actions presented or deemed to be presented to the Parliament;
- b) any question relating to a treaty or other international instrument, whether or not negotiated to completion, referred to the Committee by:
  - (i) either House of the Parliament, or
  - (ii) a Minister; and
- c) such other matters as may be referred to the Committee by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and on such conditions as the Minister may prescribe.



## List of abbreviations

ACCD	Australian Council for Cultural Diversity
ACTU	Australian Council of Trade Unions
AFC	Australian Film Commission
AFS	Anti-fouling Systems
AFTINET	Australia's Free Trade and Investment Network
AMSA	Australian Maritime Safety Authority
AMWU	Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union
ANZCERTA	Australia New Zealand Closer Economic Relations Agreement
APEC	Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation
ASFTA	Australia-Singapore Free Trade Agreement
AUSFTA	Australia-United States Free Trade Agreement
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna
CPA	Competition Principles Agreement
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

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ETIS	Elephant Trade Information System
FTA	Free Trade Agreement
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
GATS	General Agreement on Trade in Services
GPA	Agreement on Government Procurement
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
ICSID	International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IPPAs	Investment Promotion and Protection Agreements
JSCOT	Joint Standing Committee on Treaties
MARPOL 73/78	Annex IV: Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Sewage from Ships (revised) of the Protocol of 1978 Relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships
MEAA	Media, Arts and Entertainment Alliance
MIKE	Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants
MRA	Market Research Analysis
NAFTA	North Atlantic Free Trade Agreement
NATA	National Association of Testing Authorities
NIA	National Interest Analysis
NTC	National Trade Consultations
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
RIS	Regulation Impact Statement
ROOs	Rules of Origin

SAFTA	Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement
SCOT	Standing Committee on Transport
SMEs	Small-to-medium-sized enterprises
TCO	Tariff Concession Orders
TBT	Tributyl tin
TPNs	Third Party Notes
UN	United Nations
UNCITRAL	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
US	United States
WTO	World Trade Organization



## List of recommendations

### Singapore Australia Free Trade Agreement

#### Recommendation 1

That, in recognition of the concerns held by members of the Australian public and non-government organisations, there be an opportunity for greater public involvement in the consultation process leading up to the first review of SAFTA.

#### Recommendation 2

The Committee supports the Singapore-Australia Free Trade Agreement, and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.

### MARPOL 73/78: Annex IV - Regulations for the Prevention of Pollution by Sewage from Ships (revised)

#### Recommendation 3

The Committee supports Annex IV of the Protocol of 1978 relating to the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as amended (MARPOL 73/78), done at London, 17 February 1978, revised text adopted at London, 13 March 2000, and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.

#### Recommendation 4

The Committee recommends that the role of the Committee be recognised by ensuring that, unless notice or reasons are provided, the Committee conclude its review of proposed treaty actions prior to the introduction of any enabling legislation.

## **International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships (the AFS Convention)**

### **Recommendation 5**

The Committee supports the International Convention on the Control of Harmful Anti-fouling Systems on Ships and recommends that binding treaty action be taken.



